

RESOLUTION

NO. R-09-325

CITY HALL: July 2, 2009

BY: COUNCILMEMBER FIELKOW

SECONDED BY:

WHEREAS, studies show that more than 80 million people worldwide are displaced globally due to war, violence, urbanization, and natural disasters, and the number of storms, floods, and earthquakes have increased threefold over the past 30 years; and

WHEREAS, New Orleans is annually threatened by hurricanes, therefore the city's government must have people and plans in place to lead its population through storm preparation, duration, and aftermath; and

WHEREAS, Tulane University in New Orleans is one of the premier research institutions in the country and its administration and faculty have firsthand experience with disasters and their effect on the affected community, the university having sustained flooding to 80% of its campus due to Hurricane Katrina and suffered over \$650 million in damages as a result; and

WHEREAS, a three-year, \$2.1 million federal grant will allow Tulane University to begin the Disaster Management Leadership Academy, a project five years in the making, which will grant certifications to high-level government officials, allowing them to move to upper management, and master's and doctoral degrees to students in research programs; and

WHEREAS, the Academy will draw on policymaking expertise from organizations such as the Brookings Institution, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the United Nations and will be headed by a former Tulane president and a former director of USAID's office of Foreign Disaster assistance; and

WHEREAS, the academy's rigorous curriculum will be interdisciplinary in nature, involving Tulane University's business, law, social work, and public health and tropical medicine schools, and as a result will introduce students to the wide range of issues and the varied skills associated with disaster management, **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS that the Council applauds Tulane University for the forthcoming opening of its new Disaster Management Leadership Academy and greatly anticipates a strong group of graduates who will be able to lead the City in the case of a natural or manmade disaster.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.